

RESERVATION DOGS

"Elora's Dad"
Episode #309

Written by

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RESERVATION DOGS

"Elora's Dad"
#309

CAST LIST

ALLY
BEAR
CHEESE
CLERK
DEBBIE
ELORA DANAN
JACKIE
MARTY
MEGAN
RICK
SECRETARY
WAITRESS
WILLIE JACK

RESERVATION DOGS

"Elora's Dad"

#309

SET LIST

INTERIORS

TRIBAL COLLEGE

ADMIN OFFICE

HARDWARE STORE

DINER

RICK'S HOUSE

KITCHEN

RICK'S BEDROOM

PIZZA SPOT

EXTERIORS

TRIBAL COLLEGE

BUS STOP

DINER

DISPENSARY PARKING LOT

GAS STATION

PIZZA SPOT

VEHICLES

DANA'S

RICK'S TRUCK

Willie Jack, Jackie, Bear, and Cheese walk the hallways of an administration building. They pass classrooms and offices.

BEAR

Whoa, that girl was hot.

CHEESE

You want to go to college after all?

BEAR

(Laughs)

Yeah. Maybe.

WILLIE JACK

Bro, you don't go to college to snag... Supposed to learn.

BEAR

That's the only reason to go to college, I think.

JACKIE

I'm going on a snag spree if I go to college.

This bothers Bear.

BEAR

You going to college?

JACKIE

I'm joking, dummy.

Bear acts like he's laughing.

BEAR

Ahaha... yes. Snag spree.

CHEESE

Snagadelic baby.

They all look at Cheese.

CHEESE (CONT'D)

What?

Jackie walks to an admin office and looks into the window.

JACKIE

She's still waiting.

They walk in.

2 INT. ADMIN OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

2

They all pile in on seats next to Elora. A secretary is looking at all of them.

SECRETARY

Y'all have an appointment?

ELORA

They are with me.

WILLIE JACK

Moral support. One of us goes to college, we all go.

SECRETARY

Y'all can't go in there with her.

They all nod. Cheese gets up and gets a piece of candy from her desk. She looks at him. Her phone rings. She picks it up.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

Ok.

She hangs up.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

She's ready.

Elora gets up. They all give her five and daps.

WILLIE JACK

Make us proud bro.

CHEESE

I might cry.

BEAR

You got this.

Elora goes towards an office.

WILLIE JACK

Don't let em fok with you, bro.

JACKIE

Let us know if you need us.

The secretary stares at them. Willie Jack throws up a west side hand sign.

3

INT. ADMIN OFFICE - DAY

3

Elora watches DEBBIE (30s) as she looks through documents. Elora notices a photo of Debbie with a bunch of, what look like, Chippendale dancers. Debbie sees Elora looking at her photos.

Debbie turns her photo away from Elora. She then puts the photo in her drawer.

DEBBIE

That's not supposed to be there.

Elora nods.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

Wild night. Aunties night out for my birthday. Hoooolayyyy we got rugged.

Elora nods. Debbie realizes she's sharing too much.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

You're distracting me.

Debbie pulls her picture back out and puts it to where she can only see it.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

Brings me comfort.

She goes back to the documents.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

Says here that you dropped out of school? Why'd you do that?

ELORA

Um... I guess I was in a different place.

DEBBIE

College is harder than high school, ya know. You gonna have to study.

ELORA

I understand.

DEBBIE

Do you know what you want to major in?

ELORA

I'd like to maybe work in mental health. Maybe like a mental health advocate. I don't know.

DEBBIE

What about like a scientist? Maybe a tribal chairman?

ELORA

No...

DEBBIE

Ok. Mental health. Now, you need to remember that your first semester is a lot of fun. Best to get those basics out of the way. My suggestions is to take the classes you're best at so it don't take much work to pull in that A. Cause we all know what you little shitasses do that first year. Everybody partyin... Everybody snaggin.

ELORA

What? No...

DEBBIE

My freshman year was lit. I went to OU. There was a 49 spot we had called the field, HOOOOLAYYY. We were rugged. Thankful there weren't TikToks back then -- Hoooolay... we'd all be in jail. We were just out there till the sun up. Dang, lots of intertribal babies came from that. You might be one. Aye.

(Beat)

Get your 49 songs ready.

Debbie begins singing a 49 song. Elora just watches the performance.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

Anyway, I'd trade spots with you in a minute. Only time we get to get rugged at my age is IHS conferences.

Debbie continues to look into the documents.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

Let's see. No more scholarships available... they done cleaned em up. That's the downside to being an older student.

ELORA

I'm not older.

DEBBIE

Yeah, but it's better if you come here right from high school. You'll get financial aid though.

Debbie looks further.

DEBBIE (CONT'D)

Ok... financial aid is filled out. Looks like we just need your... Oh, your mom passed. Sorry. Ok, looks like we just need your father's income information.

ELORA

I don't have a Dad.

DEBBIE

What you think your mom was a virgin? That's only happened once in history when our lord jesus christ was born.

ELORA

What? No, I don't live with him. I never lived with him.

DEBBIE

He's your father. He's on your birth certificate. We need his information to make sure he's not some millionaire.

ELORA

What? I don't even know him. How am I supposed to get his information?

DEBBIE

Dang, you kids. All y'all think I'm your therapist. Listen, you ain't the first who ain't got a daddy. But you need a daddy to get this cheddar.

ELORA

I just... I don't know where to start.

DEBBIE

Google. You think I know my dad? Hell no. But I can still tell you what his blood type is. I can tell you his shoe size, everything.

ELORA

So... Oh man.

DEBBIE

Sorry.

4

EXT. TRIBAL COLLEGE - DAY

4

Elora leads the crew out to Dana's car.

CHEESE

So, they won't give you money until they know that your dad you never met doesn't have a lot of money?

ELORA

Pretty much.

WILLIE JACK

So, go find him.

BEAR

Yeah.

ELORA

What? Just show up and say "Hey it's me".

JACKIE

Yeah, It's just business. You don't have to move in with him.

BEAR

Yeah, or have a relationship. Like me.

Elora thinks.

ELORA

Could I borrow your mom's car?

WILLIE JACK

Yeah bro.

JACKIE
Want us to go with you?

ELORA
I should go alone.

CHEESE
Just like Luke when he went to
Degobah.

ELORA
Uh... exactly.

They all get into the car.

5 INT. HARDWARE STORE - DAY 5

Rick (late 40s) is walking through the hardware store. He has a couple cans of paint in his arms. He says "hi" to a worker as he passes them.

6 INT. HARDWARE STORE. CHECK OUT LINE - LATER 6

Rick is checking out with a CLERK (50s. Male).

CLERK
That gonna be it, Rick?

RICK
Yeah, that's all today.

CLERK
Eighteen million dollars.

RICK
(Smiles)
You got it.

Rick pulls out a twenty. The clerk holds the twenty up as if to inspect it.

CLERK
(Kidding)
Gotta make sure this ain't
counterfeit.

RICK
Oh yeah. Keep me honest.

The Clerk gives Rick the change.

CLERK
See ya next time.

RICK
Yes sir...

Rick takes his things and heads out of the store. He exits and heads towards his truck. Elora walks into frame. She was following him in the store. She watches him out the window.

A WORKER is cleaning near her.

WORKER
You need anything?

ELORA
Oh, no. I'm good. Thanks.

Elora then walks out the door.

7 EXT. DISPENSARY PARKING LOT - DAY 7

Rick pulls up in his pickup. He gets out. He says "hi" to a guy hanging out outside. He enters.

Elora (In Dana's car) pulls up into frame.

8 INT. DANA'S CAR - DAY 8

Elora sits and waits. She picks up her phone and texts her group text.

ELORA TEXT
My Dad's a big stoner.

BEAR TEXT
Oh word. Lol.

ELORA TEXT
Yup.

WILLIE JACK TEXT
Bet he knows Uncle Brownie den.

BEAR TEXT
What's he like?

ELORA TEXT
I haven't met him yet?

BEAR TEXT
So, how you know?

ELORA TEXT

I just watched him go into the dispensary.

CHEESE

Are you stalking him?

ELORA TEXT

No! I'm not stalking him. Just deciding what to do.

Elora puts her phone down.

Rick comes out with a small bag. He takes a joint out and lights it before he gets in the truck.

ELORA

Damn... he is a stoner.

Rick drives out of the parking lot. Elora starts her car and follows.

9

INT. RICK'S TRUCK - DAY

9

Rick is smoking a joint and bobbing his head to "Dallas" By the Silver Jews. He notices the car following him. He looks in the rearview. Confused. He puts his blinker on and turns. The car follows.

RICK

Are they fucking following me? Kick rocks.

He turns again.

10

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

10

Rick's truck pulls up to the gas pump.

Elora pulls in and parks near the street. She pulls up a bag of Flaming Flamers and eats. She doesn't see Rick making a b-line for her car.

She notices him just as he knocks on the window.

RICK

What the hell are you following me for?

ELORA

(Trying to start the car)
Oh, shit!

RICK
Stop... Hey!

Rick opens the door.

ELORA
Hey, I'll stab you. I've done it
before.

RICK
Why are you following me?

Elora doesn't know what to say. Rick sees something familiar
in her face.

RICK (CONT'D)
Who are you?

Elora doesn't look at him. He kneels down. Could it be?

RICK (CONT'D)
Hey, who are you? Look at me.

Elora looks at him. Rick looks like he's seen a ghost.

RICK (CONT'D)
I'll be damned.

Elora nods. Rick rubs his face.

11 INT. DINER - DAY

11

Rick and Elora sit across from each other at a diner. The
room is full of nerves. The Waitress takes their drink
orders.

WAITRESS
Get you something to drink?

RICK
I'll have coffee.

ELORA
Me too.

RICK
I come here some mornings. They
have pretty good breakfast. You
hungry?

ELORA
No. I had chips.

RICK
Chips for breakfast?

Elora shrugs.

ELORA
Why not?

RICK
I mean. No reason... I like chips.

Silence. Elora is uncomfortable.

RICK (CONT'D)
You look just like your mom.

ELORA
I've heard. My whole life.

RICK
I bet. I looked you up once. On the internet.

ELORA
That's weird.

RICK
Well, I was just curious. I don't know... I just thought I might never meet you in person.

ELORA
Why is that? Why did you think you wouldn't meet me?

RICK
I don't know. I just... I don't know.

(Beat)
I'm glad you came to find me.

ELORA
I didn't.

RICK
What do you mean?

ELORA
I mean, yes, I came to find you, but not to pressure you, or... I'm not looking for a dad. I didn't really know you existed until the other day. I need to get information from you.

RICK
Information?

ELORA
I have some paperwork to fill out.
For school. Financial aid stuff.

RICK
Oh, Ok...

The waitress brings their coffee.

WAITRESS
Anything to eat?

RICK
Uh, yeah. Can we get pie? You want
pie?

ELORA
I'm good.

RICK
Are you sure? They have really
good...

ELORA
No, for real. I'm good. Thanks.

RICK
Um... Ok. You know what, coffee is
good? I need to lay off the sugar
anyway.

WAITRESS
Let me know if you change your
mind.

RICK
I will.

Elora is pouring sugar into her coffee.

RICK (CONT'D)
You must get it from me.

ELORA
What?

RICK
Sugar...

Elora stops pouring sugar.

ELORA
Everyone likes sugar.

RICK
That's true.

Rick smiles. He watches her face. She catches him. He looks away.

RICK (CONT'D)
I... I don't know. I've thought about meeting you. I thought I'd have a lot to say... Now, I'm just nervous.

ELORA
There's nothing to be nervous about. There's nothing we can do about it now.

RICK
Well, I'd love to get to know you.

ELORA
I don't know that that's for the best.

RICK
Yeah?

ELORA
Yeah.

Rick is dejected but he understands. He looks for something to say.

RICK
I named you, ya know?

ELORA
You did?

RICK
Yeah. You know it's from the movie 'Willow'?

ELORA
How could I not? I get reminded every time I talk to someone over the age of thirty.

RICK

I was a big movie nerd. Ron Howard made that. He's from Oklahoma, ya know?

Elora nods. She then pulls out the application.

ELORA

Is it cool if...

RICK

Oh, yeah. What do you need me to do?

ELORA

Just fill this section out. Then you might have to email some stuff to them. I can give you the information.

Rick takes a drink of his coffee. He pulls the paper over to him. He looks it over.

RICK

Looks pretty simple.

ELORA

Yeah...

RICK

So, you're going to college?

Elora nods.

RICK (CONT'D)

That's real good. I never went.

ELORA

What do you do?

RICK

I paint houses.

Beat. Silence.

RICK (CONT'D)

Say, listen... I'm real sorry I wasn't there for you. Ever. I just... I don't know... I was young and...

ELORA

Listen... You don't have to do all that. I'm grown.

Rick nods. She's not grown, but he's not gonna tell her any different.

ELORA (CONT'D)

There was a time I wished you were around... or just a Dad was around... but... I had a lot of people watching out for me. All I need from you fits on that piece of paper.

Rick looks at the paper.

RICK

Right.

He tries to find a pen in his shirt. It's missing.

RICK (CONT'D)

You have a pen? I don't have mine.

Elora looks.

ELORA

I'll get one.

Rick watches Elora as she walks to get a pen. He smiles at her. She is her mom. She is him. And she's far from him. But he's proud to see her regardless.

POV - Elora is talking to the Waitress. The Waitress gives her a pen.

Rick looks at the paper as Elora gets back into the booth. She hands him the pen. He begins filling it out.

Elora watches his face. His hands. She's curious and she can stare at him now that he's filling the paperwork out. He finishes.

RICK

I think that's it?

Elora takes it and looks it over.

ELORA

Yeah, that looks good. Like I said they might need some documents emailed.

Elora starts packing up. She takes one last drink of coffee.

RICK

Ok, that's all you need?

ELORA
Yeah, thanks.

RICK
I'll take care of the bill. Don't
worry about it.

ELORA
You sure?

RICK
Of course.

Rick stands up. He wants to hug her, but isn't sure. Elora reaches her hand out to shake his. He shakes her hand.

RICK (CONT'D)
Yeah... It's good to see you Elora
Danan. Stay in touch.

ELORA
Good to meet you.

She walks away. Rick sits down. He looks around the diner. He jumps up.

12

EXT. DINER - CONTINUOUS

12

Elora is about to get into the car. Rick comes to her.

RICK
Hey, can we do one thing? I just
want to give you something. It's at
my house. I'll take five minutes.
You can just follow me there.

ELORA
Uh... I should probably

RICK
It'll be quick. I really want you
to have something.

Elora thinks.

ELORA
Ok.

Off Rick:

13 EXT. RICK'S HOUSE - DAY 13

Rick is getting out of his truck. Elora is parking.

14 INT. DANA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS 14

Elora looks at Rick's modest house. Rick walks to meet her in the yard. She gets out.

15 EXT. RICK'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 15

Rick welcomes her over.

RICK
Here's my mansion.

Elora notices the kids toys in the yard.

ELORA
Kids toys...

RICK
Oh, yes! You have siblings!

This hits Elora different.

ELORA
Wow... Uh, are they here?

RICK
No, they're at school. Come on in.

Elora nods then follows Rick into the house.

16 INT. RICK'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 16

Rick leads her into the modest, kid-cluttered house.

RICK
Sorry, these damn kids are gonna
kill me. We are working on putting
things up when we get them out. As
you can see It's not going great.

Elora smiles. Maybe her first of the day.

RICK (CONT'D)
You want more coffee?

ELORA
Uh... I'll probably be ok.

RICK
Come on, I'll make you some. You
can take a to-go mug.

ELORA
Ok.

RICK
(Motioning towards the
table)
Have a seat. Won't take me long...
I've got one of those machines.

Rick goes to make Elora Danan coffee. Elora looks around.

ELORA
How many kids do you have?

RICK
Um, well there's Marty, Megan, and
the oldest is Ally. She's 12.

ELORA
How old's the youngest?

RICK
Megan is seven.

ELORA
And their mom?

RICK
Uh, yeah... their mom got a bit of
an opiate addiction. We separated a
couple years ago and I got custody.
She's in treatment now. We are
hoping she can keep it straight.
They miss her.

Elora gets it.

ELORA
So... are you like full white?

RICK
(Laughs)
Yeah... guilty. I did one of those
23 and Me's. Said I'm 99 percent
European. 1 percent unknown. So, I
don't know. Yeah. White as they
come.

He finishes her coffee and brings it to her.

RICK (CONT'D)

Ok... I'll be right back. It'll take me a second to dig it out.

ELORA

What is it?

RICK

It's a surprise. I'll be right back.

ELORA

Ok.

17 INT. RICK'S BEDROOM - DAY 17

Rick walks into his room. He immediately pulls out a box from under his bed. He dumps it on the bed. It's a bunch of photos. He starts digging through them. It's almost impossible, there are so many. He keeps looking and tossing the ones that aren't it.

18 INT. RICK'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS 18

Elora walks around the living room looking at photos of Rick and the kids. Also pictures of their mom. She drinks her coffee.

19 INT. RICK'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS 19

Rick is now frantic.

RICK

Fuck, where is it?

He thinks. He then rushes to his dresser. He goes in the top drawer and begins digging around. He finds it! He leaves the room.

20 INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS 20

Elora is sitting back down at the table.

RICK

I found it! Ok.

Rick sits down. He then hands it to her. She gets it and looks at it. It's a picture of Cookie holding a newborn Elora. Rick is sitting out of focus off to the side.

ELORA
Is that me?

RICK
Yeah, it's you! Right after you
made it into the world.

Elora doesn't know what to say.

ELORA
Wow... That's crazy.

RICK
Right?

ELORA
I don't have many pictures of me as
a baby.

RICK
I bet I have one or two more
somewhere.
(Beat)
She really loved you.

Beat.

ELORA
When's the last time you saw me?

RICK
You were two. We had been breaking
up off and on for a year... since
you were about one. Then we split
when you were two. I... don't know.
I could blame your mom, I could
blame your grandma Mabel, but the
truth is... I was fucked up. I
wasn't ready. I have a tendency to
run from things that are hard. Or
at least I did.

ELORA
So, that's where I get it.

RICK
That's it. That's what I wanted to
show you.

Elora goes to hand it back to him.

ELORA
Thanks for showing me.

RICK

No, you should keep it. It's been waiting to be in your hands.

Elora picks it back up. She moves it closer to her.

ELORA

Thank you.

Rick looks at his watch.

ELORA (CONT'D)

Oh, I'm sorry, I'm keeping you.

RICK

No, I just... The kids get off of school in like fifteen minutes. I meet them at the corner where the bus drops them off.

ELORA

Oh, cute.

RICK

You want to go?

ELORA

I should go.

RICK

Ok... you could meet your siblings. They'd be stoked. Or, you can meet them and we'll just say you're a friend. Whatever is comfortable. Just a walk two blocks up and then we come back and you can tear out of here.

ELORA

I don't know...

Elora Danan gets herself ready to leave. Rick nods, he understands, (he is almost relieved?)

RICK

We can do it next time. I won't tell them I met you. They'll be jealous.

Elora stops.

ELORA DANAN

You know what? Sure. I don't have anywhere to be.

RICK
You sure? No pressure.

ELORA
No, it's all good.

RICK
Ok.

Rick gets up.

21

EXT. RICK'S HOUSE - DAY

21

Rick and Elora exit the house. Rick lights up a joint.

RICK
You smoke?

ELORA
I'm good.

RICK
Probably shouldn't offer my
daughter a joint.

They start walking.

ELORA
How did you meet my mom?

RICK
We were friends, me and your mom. I
couldn't tell you exactly *the*
moment I met her. But we partied
together, back in the day, before I
quit drinking. I knew that whole
group... That's how we met.

Elora listens.

ELORA DANAN
I'm assuming I wasn't planned?

RICK
Oh, no. Sorry...

ELORA
It's ok.

RICK
We were together probably 4 months,
before she found out she was
pregnant with you.
(MORE)

RICK (CONT'D)

We weren't great together, but I was crazy about her. Like really crazy about her. Too crazy I suppose. I would've got sick of me too.

(Beat)

We fought a lot I suppose... We were young. Fuck... We had no business having a baby. I guess I didn't try hard enough. I was young. No excuse. With these kids I got a chance to be a better father, the second time around.

Rick shrugs.

RICK (CONT'D)

You never get the first pancake right.

Rick laughs nervously.

RICK (CONT'D)

Not calling you a pancake.

Elora is quiet.

RICK (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I'm just talking about you like you're not standing right in front of me.

ELORA

Why didn't you try? To stick around? Or did you?

RICK

I did for a bit.

ELORA

I mean, it's kind of fucked up no matter what? Right? Leaving a kid.

RICK

It is. I could give you a hundred reasons. And it doesn't matter. I'm not perfect by any means. But...

ELORA

No one says you have to be perfect. I don't think. I'm not saying that.

RICK

Well, no one's accused me of it either.

(Beat)

You know, it's just all this. Here I am, I've got a new family. I've known about you... you were there. Like, I knew you were there, all along. And now that you're here I can't really believe I didn't come down there and just show up at your door. Like you did. I could've done this a lot earlier. Now it seems so stupid. It seems so weak.

ELORA

Pretty week.

(Beat)

But that's life right? We fuck it up... then we try and fix it. Or not do it again.

Silence. Elora motions to have the joint. She hits it.

RICK

Could I ask you some things?

ELORA

Yeah.

RICK

Uh, what's your favorite subject in school?

ELORA

I dropped out.

RICK

Right, okay... Like me. Did you play sports or anything?

ELORA

I played basketball. Until I quit.

RICK

Who was your coach? Was it Bobson?

ELORA

Yeah.

RICK

You're shitting me?

ELORA DANAN

For real.

RICK

He couldn't play basketball. Did y'all suck?

ELORA DANAN

We were pretty good. Buncha rez girls.

RICK

You hit threes? I mean, I don't see you dunkin anytime soon.

Elora laughs.

ELORA DANAN

I was a point guard. I hit some threes. But then I cussed Bobson out and quit.

RICK

He still have that mane of red hair.

ELORA DANAN

(Laughs)

Hardly... pretty bald now.

Rick laughs.

RICK

At least I've kept my hair. Right?

Beat.

RICK (CONT'D)

Where are you staying now?

ELORA DANAN

At my grandma's. I got the house after she went.

Rick looks sorry.

RICK

I didn't know she passed.

(Beat)

This is kind of a cop out, but I didn't want to take you from all that. I didn't wanna take you away from your family... and your people. And I was a coward I guess.

Beat.

ELORA
That is a cop out.

RICK
I called one time after your mom's
wreck. I asked to come over. Mabel
told me not to come around... I
just... I decided to honor that.
(Beat)
I didn't even go to the funeral. I
just sat at home. Cried.

Elora nods.

ELORA
And you were relieved?

RICK
Relieved?

ELORA
To not have to raise a kid.

RICK
No...

Rick stops.

RICK (CONT'D)
I WAS relieved. I got to be a
shitass for a decade.

They come to the bus stop. He looks at Elora and holds it
till she looks at him.

RICK (CONT'D)
It wasn't worth it.

Elora looks away.

ELORA
I look nothing like you.

Rick laughs.

RICK
I guess you don't.

Beat. He looks at Elora again.

RICK (CONT'D)
This is crazy...

ELORA DANAN
What? This?

RICK
Yeah.

A SCHOOL BUS pulls up.

22

EXT. BUS STOP - DAY

22

The three kids exit the bus.

They walk over to their dad and eye Elora.

RICK
Hey y'all, I want you to meet
someone. this is...

Rick stops and looks at Elora.

RICK (CONT'D)
This is my friend, Elora Danan. Say
hi.

The kids all wave.

Elora reacts. Off this-

RICK (CONT'D)
She's your sister.
(then)
Elora Danan, this is Megan, Marty
and Ally.

MEGAN
We have another sister?

They greet each other. The kids are unfazed, but curious.
Elora is a little weirded out.

RICK
Yeah, isn't that cool? There's more
of us. We can outnumber em now!

MEGAN
Will you eat pizza with us?

Rick laughs.

RICK
It's pizza friday.
(Beat)
Elora has to go.
(MORE)

RICK (CONT'D)

She has to see her friends tonight.
But we're gonna walk back to the
house with her.

Rick starts leading them.

ELORA

I'll get pizza with you.

Rick looks back at Elora.

RICK

(To the kids)

You hear that? Your sister is gonna
get pizza with us.

They cheer. This brightens Elora.

23 INT. PIZZA SPOT - DAY

23

Rick scarfs a pizza and tells stories to the kids. Elora
laughs.

Megan crawls into Elora's lap and keeps coloring on a kids
menu. Elora has never had a kid on her lap. She ignores her
discomfort and enjoys it. How could you not. She leans over
Megan's shoulder and talks to her about her drawing.

Elora looks around her, absorbing this new family that she
has.

24 EXT. PIZZA SPOT - EVENING

24

Rick is strapping the kids in. Elora is telling them bye.

ALLY

Will you come back and visit?

ELORA

I promise. I'll probably be going
to school near here so I can stop
by a lot. Ok?

They are all excited.

Rick closes the doors to his truck. They stand facing each
other.

RICK

Thanks for stopping in.

Beat.

ELORA

I had fun.

RICK

I um... yeah... I just...

ELORA

Thanks, Rick.

There's a new warmth between them, but still trepidatious waters.

RICK

You care If we hug?

Elora thinks.

ELORA

Yeah, let's hug.

They give each other a stiff, but nice hug. Elora gets in the car. Rick waves at her then heads to the truck.

25

INT. DANA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

25

Elora straps herself in. She starts the car. She pauses and looks down at the photos.

Rick pulls out and honks. She turns and waves, giving a small smile. She puts the photo in her shirt pocket.